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An Open Letter to Mr. David Belasco.

My Dear Mr. Belasco:

Today, after witnessing one of the greatest theatrical triumphs ever achieved in the history of the American stage, with our hearts filled with gratitude, we find it impossible to refrain from writing you this public letter of appreciation for what you have done for us, for the theatre, and for the American public.

Although in your modesty you begged us not to use your name on the programme of our production of "The Wanderer" at the Manhattan Opera House, we but express a fact already known by word of mouth, that it was your kindly interest, your unselfish devotion, and your fine artistic instinct, which have made this production such a wonderful and impressive success.

Your labor in staging "The Wanderer" was that of love; you were not actuated by motives of gain; you refused an offer of compensation for your services; you would not permit us to reward you with a share of the profits; yet you sacrificed a month in days of tireless effort, and of sleepless nights, supervising the staging of this epoch-making play.

We know, in our own hearts, that your motive was two-fold: you wished to see this fine artistic play worthily presented; and we cannot help but feel that you also put forth your best efforts, utilizing your wonderful stage staff and corps of assistants, to aid us in our production, because of your loyal friendship for the members of a young producing firm which—we hope—will ever strive in the future to live up to the fine artistic standards you yourself have established for the American stage.

On behalf of our associate, F. Ray Comstock; and for the author, Maurice V. Samuels, we wish to thank you publicly for your great and unselfish efforts, not only to aid us and our production, but also to give to the public the finest and most perfect presentation possible of a great and artistic play, "The Wanderer."

With assurances of our greatest respect and esteem, we are,

Affectionately yours, WILLIAM ELLIOTT AND MORRIS GEST.

Feb. 2nd, 1917. Manhattan Opera House

AN APPRECIATION Ritz-Carlton Hotel, ... January 27, 1917. Dear Mr. Atwill:-I have witnessed this afternoon "THE LODGER." must say to you at once how absolutely wonderful I thought it was—the Play, you and your company. I send you for this after-noon my thanks, my appre-ciation and my admiration.

Very cordially yours, MARY GARDEN.

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